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Notice of Allowability	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/714,948		YOSHIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Janis L. Dote		1756	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/21/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 November 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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Art Unit: 1756

1. The examiner acknowledges the cancellation of claim 2 and the amendment to claim 1 set forth in the amendment filed on Apr. 21, 2005. Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Peter Saxon (Reg. No. 24,942) on Jul. 14, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 4, at line 3, after the word "adding," delete the phrase "a compound having" and insert the phrase -- said compound having at least two epoxy groups, wherein said compound has --.

3. The examiner's amendment to claim 4 provides unambiguous antecedent basis that the compound having a cyclic epoxy group recited in instant claim 4 refers to the compound having at

Art Unit: 1756

least two epoxy groups recited in instant claim 1, from which claim 4 depends.

4. As noted in the in the office action mailed on Feb. 9, 2004, paragraph 5, the term "resol type phenolic resin" recited in the instant claims is defined in the specification as referring to "a compound obtained by the addition and condensation reaction between a compound having phenolic hydroxy groups and aldehydes in the presence of an alkaline catalyst." See page 10, line 26, to page 11, line 3.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The rejections of claims 1, 3, and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Japanese Patent 61-041152 (JP'152), as evidenced by applicants' admission at page 40, lines 1-10, and of claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP'152 combined with the other cited prior art, set forth in the office action mailed on Feb. 9, 2004, paragraphs 8-10, have been withdrawn in response to the amendment to claim 1, adding the limitation that the "crosslinked epoxy-modified resole type phenolic resin is obtained by adding a compound having at least two epoxy groups

Art Unit: 1756

to a phenolic hydroxy group of a phenol-aldehyde resol type phenolic resin so that the phenolic groups and the epoxy groups undergo an addition and condensation reaction." JP'152 does not teach or suggest such a crosslinked epoxy-modified resole type phenolic resin as recited in the instant claims. It does not appear that the crosslinked epoxy-modified resin taught by JP'152 can be obtained by adding a compound having two epoxy groups to a resole type phenolic resin as recited in the instant claims. See the JP'152 epoxy-modified phenol novolak type or epoxy-modified cresol novolak type resin at page 8, lines 1-3, of the USPTO translation of JP'152.

Claims 1 and 3-7 are allowable over the prior art of record for the reasons discussed above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janis L. Dote whose telephone number is (571) 272-1382. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Mark Huff, can be

Art Unit: 1756

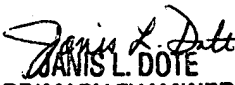
reached on (571) 272-1385. The central fax phone number is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry regarding papers not received regarding this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Supervisory Application Examiner Ms. Claudia Sullivan, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1052.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Jul. 14, 2005


JANIS L. DOTE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1500
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